

Dear Parents,

The staff at McCreary School are excited to welcome students back to school! Over the last couple of weeks the staff have been busy preparing for the first day – how quickly it has arrived! We hope that your summer has been filled with family, friends, fun, and relaxation!

Please take some time to review the student handbook, as some important changes have been added. You can find the student handbook on the school website. If you would like a printed copy please contact the school and arrange to have one sent home with your child. Some of the changes that will take place in McCreary School this year include:

- We will now be following a 6-day cycle on the calendar
- The times for the school day have changed slightly
- We have added an attendance award
- We have update the late assignment policy
- We have revised the healthy food and drinks policy
- Pick-up times have been changed slightly

Important Dates

September 11 th	Teacher Meet n Greet BBQ 5:00pm – 6:30pm
September 19 th	Take Our Kid to Work Presentation (Grade 9)
September 21 st	No School: Teacher Professional Development Day
September 28 th	Terry Fox Walk
October 1 st	Picture Day
October 1 st – 5 th	Book Fair
October 8 th	No School : Thanksgiving
October 18 th	K-12 Progress Reports
October 19 th	No School: Teacher Professional Development Day
October 30 th	WE Day

Please refer to the division calendar on the division website for other important dates, including sporting events.

It may seem as though you are being bombarded by paperwork in this first week – please bear with us! Along with this newsletter, you will receive a registration verification form, consent forms for social media, internet, and computer use, as well as use of digital pictures / school work for the website or newspapers, student accident insurance, and Indigenous Identity Declaration form.

McCreary School Staff

Principal, Guidance Counsellor Art 10S, Life Work / Exploration 10S, Law 40S, Psychology 40S	Mrs. Chrisp
Kindergarten	Mrs. Gingras
Grade 1	Mrs. Lussier
Grade 2	Mrs. Nadeau
Grades 3 & 4	Mr. Taylor
Grades 5 & 6	Mr. MacFarlane
Grades 7 & 8 (homeroom), grades 5 & 6 PE	Mrs. Sellman
Shops, Grade 8 Science	Mr. Annetts
Grades 9-12 ELA, Grades 7-12 Social Studies, Grade 8 Math	Mr. Billett
Grades 9-12 Sciences & Math, Career Counsellor	Mrs. Lockhart
Grades 3,4, 9-12 PE, Grades 10-12 Essential Math, Grades 9-12 Photography	Mr. Thompson
Resource, Home Ec, Grades 4 & 5 Math	Mrs. Duchart
Music (K-8)	Ms. Tait
Secretary	Mrs. Gamache
Librarian	Mrs. Williment
Educational Assistants	Mrs. Borne, Ms. Burton, Mrs. Duggan, Ms. Novak, Ms. Puhach, Mrs. Tereck
Custodians	Mr. R. Zalizniak, Mr. A. Zalizniak
Bus Drivers	Mr. Alan, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Smith, Mr. Unrau
Speech Language Pathologist	Ms. Trudy Campbell
French Consultant	Mr. Tim O'Rourke
Social Worker	Ms. Dana Gurke
Psychologist	Mr. Froese
IT Department	Mr. Hopfner, Mr. Rochon
Resource Consultant, Numeracy & Literacy Consultant	Mr. Nadeau
Superintendent	Mrs. Syzmesko

School Hours

Teacher supervision begins in the school at 8:30 am and parents are asked to not send students any earlier. Students arriving before 8:30 am will be expected to remain outside and unsupervised until the doors open. Due to the end of the school being very busy, parents are asked to avoid picking up their child between 3:20 – 3:30pm. At the end of the day, parents are asked to wait outside the school for their children.

Period	Grades K-6
8:30 am	School Opens
8:40 am	Buses Arrive
8:50 am	Class Warning Bell
8:52 - 9:28	Opening Exercises Period 1
9:29 – 10:04	Period 2
10:05 – 10:33	Period 3
10:33 – 10:48	Recess
10:48 – 11:24	Period 4
11:25 – 12:00	Period 5
12:00 – 12:55	Lunch
1:00 – 1:36	Period 6
1:37 – 2:12	Period 7
2:12 – 2:27	Recess
2:28 – 3:00	Period 8
3:00 – 3:30	Period 9
3:30pm	Bus Students Dismissed
After bus departure	Town students Dismissed

Period	Grades 7-12
8:40 am	Buses Arrive
8:52 – 10:04	Opening Exercises Period 1
10:04 – 10:07	Break
10:07 – 10:43	Period 2
10:43 – 10:48	Break
10:48 – 12:00	Period 3
12:00 – 12:55	Lunch
1:00 – 2:12	Period 4
2:12 – 2:18	Break
2:18 – 3:30	Period 5
3:30pm	Bus Students Dismissed
After bus departure	Town Students Dismissed

Attendance

If your child will be missing school for any reason, please let us know as soon as possible. You can talk to your child’s teacher directly, leave a note in their organizer, or call the school and talk to Mrs. Gamache. It is very important that we know when students will not be in school, as we track attendance diligently. As a safety measure, we need to know if a child will not be in school that day. If a student does not come to school, and there has not been prior communication from the parent, the school will call home to verify the absence. As you can well imagine, this takes a fair amount of time – we would prefer that all absences are reported to the office as soon as you know your child will not be in school!

The staff are happy to announce a new award for attendance starting this school year. Any student who has perfect attendance will receive an award at Awards Day. If no student has perfect attendance, the student with the best attendance will receive an award. We hope this award encourages students to attend school every day, in order to best enhance growth in learning. Please refer to the student handbook for more details.

Allergies - Peanuts and Nuts

I would like to remind parents that our entire school is peanut and nut safe. With the increase in the number of children with life threatening allergies, our goal is to keep all children safe. Please read all ingredient labels before sending any items to school. We also ask that you talk to your child about the importance of not sharing their food or snacks, as they may not know whether a child is allergic or not. As an additional precaution, we ask that everyone wash their hands both before and after eating. The safety of students with allergies depends on all of us doing our part!

Healthy Eating / Breakfast Club

McCreary School encourages all students to bring healthy food and drink choices for snacks and lunch. As part of our effort to help students make healthy choices energy drinks will no longer be allowed at school. The Breakfast Club will once again be available for all students, every day of the school year. The Breakfast Club offers a variety of healthy choices, from all food groups, to help get students off to a great start in the morning.

*We ask that any items sent for lunch that need to be warmed up are kept to a maximum warm-up time of one minute.

Bicycles

Please make sure to park your bicycles in the racks provided. From time to time vehicles enter the school parking lot near the bike racks and any bikes laying on the ground may be at risk, as well as causing an obstruction.

Birthday Party Invites & Gifts

As part of our effort to ensure that no child feels excluded, we ask that birthday party invitations and gifts not be sent to school.

Late Assignments – High School

In the last couple of years we have been experiencing an increase in the amount of late assignments being submitted at the high school level. As a result, all teachers will be enforcing a more strict late assignment policy for students, which will include a deduction in marks for assignments turned in after the assigned due date. This policy is in accordance with the provincial assessment policy. For more information please refer to the student handbook.

Teacher Meet and Greet BBQ

The teaching staff will be hosting a Meet and Greet evening, with a hot dog supper, for all parents and students on Tuesday, September 11, from 5:00pm – 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. The evening will be informal and teachers will be in their classrooms.

Distribution of Letters to Parents

In order to reduce the amount of paper being sent home, all school-wide letters will be sent with the youngest or only child in the family.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Crisp at the school.

Welcome back!!!!